

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claim 10 is newly added to more fully define the invention¹. Claims 1-3 and 5 have been rejected. Claims 4 and 6-9 are only objected to.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 21, 2002.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting a personal interview with Applicant's representative regarding this Application on June 6, 2003. The amendment of independent claim 1 herein is believed to be in accordance with the agreement reached at the interview. Thus, Applicant believes that the entry of this Amendment should result in the withdrawal of the rejections of record.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-10.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

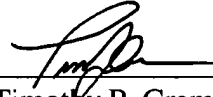
¹ New claim 10 is supported at least by paragraph [0032] and FIG. 2 of the instant Application.

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Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: June 12, 2003

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A pneumatic tire comprising

a carcass toroidally extending between a pair of bead portions,

a belt arranged on an outside of the carcass in a radial direction and comprised of at least two belt layers containing many reinforcing cords inclined with respect to an equatorial plane of the tire, the cords of which layers being crossed with each other,

a belt reinforcement arranged on an inside of the belt in the radial direction and comprised of at least one belt reinforcing layer embedded with reinforcing elements extending in a circumferential direction,

and a tread rubber arranged on outsides of the belt and the belt reinforcement in the radial direction, in which a widthwise outer end of a widest-width belt reinforcing layer is arranged outward from a widthwise outer end of a widest-width belt layer among the belt layers, and

a restraining rubber having ~~a width of not less than 4 mm and~~ a JIS hardness not less than a JIS hardness of a coating rubber for the widest-width belt reinforcing layer is arranged outward from the widthwise outer end of the widest-width belt reinforcing layer at least in a the widthwise direction directly adjacent to the widthwise outer end of the widest-width belt reinforcing layer in an axial direction, wherein

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the restraining rubber has a width of not less than 4 mm from the widthwise outer end of the widest-width belt reinforcing layer.

Claim 10 is added as a new claim.